

Fairfax County Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

09/21/2017 September 21, 2017

Opening

The monthly meeting of the Fairfax County Tree Commission was called to order at 7:32 on 09/21/2017 in 122 Herrity by Chairman Robert Vickers.

Present

Keith Cline, Director, UFMD

Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forester III, UFMD

Rachel Griesmer-Zakhar, Urban Forester II, UFMD Liaison

Kevin Holland, Mason District

Rick Ayers, Springfield District

Chet McLaren, At-Large

Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District

Jessica Bowser, Lee District

Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council

Robert Vickers, Chair, Dranesville District

Karen Campblin, Sully District

Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District

Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District

Sheila D. Allen Virginia Cooperative Extension, Fairfax County

Tom Fleury, Providence District

John Stokely, Fairfax County Park Authority

Absent

Catherine Ledec, Mt. Vernon District

Jim McGlone, Vice Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry

Approval of Minutes

Tom Fleury motioned to approve the September 2017 minutes, Chet McLaren seconded. The minutes for the July meeting were unanimously approved.

Open Issues

Guests from Urban Forestry Commission in Arlington County: Kate Norland, Angela Dickey, Margie Ballard, John Carrie.

Tree Preservation and Planting Awards (TPPA)

- Status of TPPA submissions: 5 submitted nominations
- Visits will take place October 12.
- Chairman Vickers expressed complaint over technical information needed on revised nomination form (statistics, plan number etc.) and that developers, real estate marketers are unfamiliar with the process/unwilling to complete the form.
 - Needed information should be listed on Fairfax County LDS website
- Karen Campblin will take over as chair of TPPA sub-committee

Presentation by Tom Fleury on “working with developers”

- Developers perspective on infill lot development
- Goal should be to educate the builder/developer (market and sell the building as “environmentally green as possible), landscape architects and civil engineers to become advocates
 - Encourage Energy Star vegetative retention component (LEEDS equivalent for residential building)
- Emphasis to establish a conversation with NVBIA/other development organizations and state legislators

Future Additional Action Items

- Chairman Vickers has solicited Cathy Ledec to invite future guest speakers. She wants Commissioners to suggest topics, and would like another volunteer.
 - John Stokely will speak at October meeting on Park Authority tree issues
- Chairman Vickers requested Tree Commission business cards
 - There is money in the budget for this; Keith Cline will follow up on the formatting and process
- Discussion of off-site retreat: Rachel Habig-Myers
 - Suggestion for Tree Commission primary [administrative] contact at UFMD
 - Suggestion to hold Tree Commission elections for those interested in running
 - Keith will put together the protocol for contacting UFMD in different scenarios
 - Clarify roles of UFMD liaison, minutes corrections etc.

UFMD Report

- Friends of Trees Awards Ceremony: October 17, Board Auditorium
- Missing some photos & email addresses for Friends of Tree Awards recipients
 - Send to Keith

- Tree Action Plan
 - Supervisor Gross had several draft revisions
 - Focus on stakeholder input (including county agencies)
 - Timeline is to have a discussion at January meeting

Commissioner Reports

- Sheila Allen: resigning from the Tree Commission, last meeting will be in October
- Karen Campblin: Chantilly Highlights Community: interested in Tree forum in Sully
- Jeanne Kadet: Rescheduled Braddock Tree Forum to March 7 as a tentative date
- Tom Fleury: Will be making a stream restoration presentation as a Tree Commission representative to several middle schools, requests a Tree Commissioner to accompany him

New Business

- What to work on next:
 - Each Tree Commission member be involved with Tree Board University in some capacity (treeboardu.org)
 - Homework: Position descriptions
 - What each commissioner would like his/her job description to be in the context of the charter
 - Add as agenda item for next month's meeting & send Rachel Habig-Myers the responses
 - Chairman Vickers made the motion, Rick Healy seconded; unanimously approved
 - Six month (from today's meeting) mini retreat in March as a simple check-in
 - Jessica Bowser made the motion, Chairman Vickers seconded; unanimously approved

Agenda for Next Meeting

1. John Stokely: Presentation on Tree Issues in Fairfax County Parks
2. Tree Commission Position Description Discussion

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:36, motioned by Jerry Peters, seconded by Chairman Robert Vickers. The next general meeting will be at 7:30 on October 19, 2017, in Herry 122.

Minutes submitted by: Rachel Griesmer-Zakhar, Urban Forester II UFMD

Approved by:

[Name]